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## **Report: CSD Well Positioned for \$90m in Parks Projects**

**Elk Grove, Calif.** – A financial analysis of the Elk Grove Community Services District shows it well-positioned to embark on its five-year, \$90-million capital improvement program for existing and new parks in Elk Grove.

The funding analysis, presented to the CSD Board of Directors at its meeting Tuesday evening, identified specific funding sources for \$85 million of the \$90 million in projects, and listed options to cover the remaining \$5 million.

The funding analysis was based on evaluation of existing revenue structures, and future revenue projections, by CSD fiscal staff.

“As in earlier analyses, this study demonstrates that the District is in extremely sound financial condition, both currently and in the long range, and is well positioned for future expansion of parks, recreation, fire and emergency services and programs,” said Donna Hansen, General Manager of the CSD.

Jeff Ramos, the CSD’s chief operating officer who directed the study, said he was cautious in projecting future revenues for the District. “We were very conservative in our estimates, yet still identified ample funds for the parks projects,” he said.

The District receives revenue for park expansion and improvement from a variety of sources, including fees from developers and assessments paid by homeowners called Lighting & Landscaping fees (L&Ls), which are spent on park purposes only, and a portion of the property tax.

The report was a follow-up to a report presented earlier this year detailing long-range plans for physical development within the Parks and Recreation Department. The report, called the Capital Improvement Plan or CIP, outlined timetables for 78 projects proposed for the next five years – everything from major park expansions to lot replacements – and provided initial estimates on available funding for the projects. The new report identifies funding to complete the undertaking.

“These projects will make a huge difference in this community,” Hansen said. The CSD currently operates 73 parks, two community centers, two aquatic complexes, a skate park, four recreational centers and off-street trails. Beyond that, the CSD runs sports and leisure programs, and special events, that attract tens of thousands of participants a year.

This analysis identifies current or anticipated funding to cover approximately \$85 million of the \$90 million in projects contained in the CIP. Options for additional revenue may include successful grant applications, donations toward and/or use of the District's reserve funds, which now total about \$19 million. As discussed in the past, the Board might also explore a Proposition 218 ballot to raise additional L&L revenues to cover these and other costs, such as maintenance of City-owned street medians.

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